AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

a portal comprising at least one server computer, the server computer executing a media library database server application that manages access to a master library of media assets that can be accessed by users via one or more communication networks; and

a plurality of media player devices that communicate with the portal to access media assets for use, at least some of the plurality of media player devices comprising a processor that executes a database ofient application that manages media assets licensed for use by a user, such management comprising synchronizing the media assets licensed for use by a user with the media assets available on the media player device for that user.

25. A portal for use in a system for distributing digital media assets to a plurality of users, comprising: at least one server computer, the server computer executing a media library database server application that manages access to a master library of media assets that can be accessed by users of media player devices via one or more communication networks, the media library database being operative to synchronize with the media assets stored on a media player device.

REMARKS

This paper is responsive to the Office Action mailed November 26, 2002.

Claims 1-27 are pending in the application. Claims 13-24 are withdrawn from consideration. The drawings stand objected to by the Draftsperson under 37 CFR 1.84 or 1.152. Claims 1-12 and 25-27 stand rejected by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Milsted et. al. U.S. Patent No. 6,345,256. Applicant respectfully traverses all of